

REMARKS

Claims 2-8 and 10-21 are pending in the present application. By this amendment claim 19 has been amended and claims 20 and 21 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated December 2, 2003.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 4 of the Action that claims 2-8 and 10-18 are allowable.

As To The Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner maintains the following rejection:

claims 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takamine (of record).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 19:

Claim 19 has been amended, to coincide with the third embodiment of the present invention, which as shown in Fig. 14 only the width of the electrode finger 11a0 of the input IDT 11 and the width of the electrode finger 12a0 (13a0) of the output IDT 12 are designed to be smaller than the width of the other electrode fingers 11a, 12a, as discussed on page 25, lines 14-18 of the present specification.

In contrast, while Takamine may disclose narrow pitch finger portions 103a, 104a, 104b, 105a each located on the sides that are mutually adjacent to the neighboring IDTs, (see lines, 38 - 41, column 5), Takamine also discloses that each of the narrow pitch finger portions 103a, 104a, 104b, 105a include more than one electrode finger.

In other words, as shown in Fig. 1, the last two electrode fingers of IDT 103 in the narrow finger portion 103a have the same width. This is also true for the other finger portions 104a, 104b and 105a as well.

Thus, it follows that Takamine fails to disclose or suggest the features of claim 19 concerning *only the width of adjacent electrode fingers of an input IDT and an output IDT is designed to be smaller than the width of the other electrode fingers.*

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

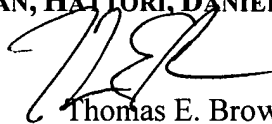
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/073,895**
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 dated March 2, 2004
Response to the Final Rejection dated December 2, 2003

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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